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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shinji NOZAKI et al.  
Serial No.: 09/656,138  
Filed: September 6, 2000  
For: NETWORK RELAY APPARATUS  
Group: 2661  
Examiner: B. Phunkulh

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AUG 11 2004

Technology Center 2600

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 5, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2004, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 5, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.

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